

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

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AMCONSUL CALI

AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

UNCLAS BOGOTA 9647

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: BEXP CO

SUBJECT: MICHIGAN IOGA TRADE MISSION

REF: A) STATE 223345; B) BOGOTA 9125

1. FOLLOWING TELECONS WITH WANDA ALE AND MARTHA CLEVELAND, EMBASSY CONTACTED COLOMBIAN ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH WHICH TRADE MISSION ORGANIZERS HAVE CORRESPONDED AND WHICH, ACCORDING TO INFORMATION PROVIDED TO US IN TELECONS, WERE TO HAVE BEEN MAJOR SOURCE OF FINANCIAL AND LOGISTICAL SUPPORT FOR MISSION. RESULTS OF OUR CONVERSATIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A) FEDEMETAL. FEDEMETAL PRESIDENT SANZ AND ASSISTANT NOHOA SAMPER INFORMED US THAT FEDEMETAL IS NOT REPEAT NOT IN A POSITION TO PROVIDE SECRETARIAL ASSISTANCE, A BIC/ MEETING ROOM LARGE ENOUGH TO INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS OR TO SUBSIDIZE MAILINGS. MOREOVER, MS SAMPER IS NOT PREPARED TO TRAVEL TO MEDELLIN WITH MS CLEVELAND. WE HAVE REVIEWED FEDEMETAL'S LETTERS TO THE MISSION ORGANIZERS AND NO MENTION IS MADE OF THESE SERVICES. FEDEMETAL IS PREPARED TO ARRANGE A GROUP BRIEFING OF THE MISSION AND TO ASSIST THE EMBASSY IN DEVELOPING A MAILING LIST.

B) ASEX LTDA. DARIO JARAMILLO OF ASEX INFORMED US
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THAT HE KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT HIS COMMITMENT TO

HOST A RECEPTION OR PROVIDE HOSPITALITY FREE OF CHARGE TO THE MISSION MEMBERS. HE UNDERSTANDS THAT HIS RESPONSIBILITY IS TO ARRANGE GROUND TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM THE AIRPORT AND HE HAS ALREADY MADE TENTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS WITH A LOCAL BUS COMPANY FOR THIS SERVICE. ASEX LTDA BY THE WAY IS A RELATIVELY NEW ORGANIZATION AND JARAMILLO IS WORKING OUT OF HIS HOUSE.

C. AVIANCA. DONALDO CABALLERO OF AVIANCA IS AWARE OF MISSION BUT DOES NOT KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE WILL BE PARTICIPATING OR WHERE THEY WILL BE STAYING. HE INFORMED US THAT AVIANCA OFFICE IN CHICAGO IS MAKING ALL OF THE ARRANGEMENTS.

2. BOTH ASEX AND FEDEMETAL ARE OF THE IMPRESSION THAT THE TRADE MISSION WILL CONSIST OF 30 TO 50 MEMBERS.

IN A LETTER TO NOHRA SAMPER DATES SEPTEMBER 9, ANTONIO RIOS OF THE NEW DETROIT ORGANIZATION STATES SPECIFICALLY THAT QUOTE A GROUP OF 30 TO 40 AMERICAN INDUSTRIALISTS WILL REPRESENT THEIR RESPECTIVE COMPANIES ON THE MISSION UNQUOTE. ANOTHER CONTACT HERE, MIGUEL ANGEL HURTADO OF HURTADO HNOS, HAS RECEIVED A LETTER FROM CHICO CUNHA, ONE OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE MISSION, STATING THAT THE MISSION WILL HAVE 16 MEMBERS. WHETHER 16 OR 50, THIS IS MORE THAN THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS INDICATED TO US BY USDOC AND DRAWS INTO QUESTION THE ELIGIBILITY OF THE GROUP FOR IOGA STATUS.

3. IN ORDER TO DO ANY KIND OF RATIONAL PLANNING FOR THIS MISSION, WE NEED TO HAVE THE FOLLOWING IMMEDIATELY
A) TOTAL NUMBER OF MISSION PARTICIPANTS AND CONFIRMATION THAT THE GROUP STILL HAS IOGA STATUS.

B) 600 MISSION BROCHURES, AS REQUESTED IN GIBSON/CLEVELAND TELCON.

C) BUDGET AUTHORIZATION FOR MISSION SECRETARIES, MAILING OF BRUCHURES, MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURES AND RENTAL OF A SUTIALE BIC AT THE HOTEL. THIS WILL AMOUNT TO APPROXIMATELY 1150 DOLLARS IN BOGOTA AND 550 DOLLARS FOR MEDELLIN PLUS THE COST OF INTERPRETERS, IF NECESSARY. REPRESENTATION EXPENSES WILL BE ADDITIONAL. SEE BOGOTA 8875 FOR BUDGET DETAILS.

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D) CONFIRMATION THAT THE GROUP WILL BE IN MEDELLIN THROUGH NOV 12, DEPARTING FOR CARTAGENA THE FOLLOWING DAY.

E) INFORMATION ON THE OBJECTIVES OF THE INDIVIDUAL MISSION MEMBERS.

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